AIIC Austria at Vienna language day

In the framework of the European Year of Languages, the Economic Chamber of Vienna recently sponsored "a day of languages" in cooperation with local associations of translators, interpreters, and lite

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The Austrian region of the International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC) was part of the September 26th event which included sessions on the contribution of languages to the economy, professional training and education, the importance of good translation practices for success in business, the role of translators and interpreters, and e-commerce and languages in a globalized economy. In addition to the keynote addresses and discussion sessions, the event provided ample opportunity for participants from various walks of life to get to know each other and talk about the language professions in more detail.

Many members were present at the AIIC stand to talk to interested visitors about the association and its activities around the world. The Austrian region screened the award-winning video "The Interpreters: A Historical Perspective," produced by AIIC member Evelyn Moggio. The film, made as part of the UN's 50th anniversary oral history project, is eloquent about the modern history of the profession and the role interpreters play as communicators across cultural frontiers who contribute to maintaining the wealth of human knowledge as expressed in the world's languages.

In conjunction with the conference and exhibition, the Austrian radio station ORF organised a special program of conversations with language professionals of all stripes under the title "Translating the World." Eliane Masry, a member of the AIIC professional delegation at UN headquarters in Vienna, spoke about the association's role of negotiating collective agreements with international organisations on behalf of interpreters and about the Arabic booth in the United Nations system.

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